

Excerpt from transcript of "FACE THE NATION" - CBS - August 21, 1960

BILL DOWNS (CBS NEWS): Mr. Benson, it seems that you are not going to be the Secretary of Agriculture in the Nixon Cabinet, if the Vice President wins the election.

SECRETARY BENSON: I have -- I have decided that -- excuse me -- I decided that long ago. I actually bought a home the 1st of April out in Salt Lake.

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Excerpts from Secretary Benson's talk before UPI Editors and Publishers, Eastern Division Conference, Washington, D. C. - Sept. 8, 1960

I mentioned that I came into this spot reluctantly. If I had to do it over again, I would respond and I would follow essentially the same course that we've followed, advocate the same program, the same principles, the same basic approach to this very difficult and complex problem -- made difficult and complex because of the injection of politics into the solution of economic problems. The economics of the problem to me is simple. It's the politics of the problem that sometimes become baffling.

I leave this office with a good deal of satisfaction. First, because we have stopped and reversed a trend toward a government dominated and socialized agriculture. That was my greatest objective when we came in. We have made real progress toward greater freedom -- the operation of free markets, freedom of choice on the part of the farmers. I think the record of the Administration overall is a good record. It isn't perfect because it's been made by human beings who are full of imperfections. I do know what the objective has been in the heart of the President. I've come to know him rather intimately and it's my hope

and prayer that in all the days to come this country will be fortunate enough to have in the White House a man of the caliber and the character of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

May I say that I'm going back to Salt Lake City to resume the work that I love with all my heart as an official of my own church working with the church and youth problems, but I will not ever lose my interest in agriculture. I couldn't possibly do that -- having lived with it all my life, having been born and reared on a farm, operated a farm, worked with farmers all my life, and being officially connected with the church it has always put great emphasis on agriculture and sound agricultural programs.

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